THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 51. *Wednesday, Jan.* 2, 1822. *Price* 1*d.*

COVENT GARDEN.

Ere we commence our task of criticism upon the performances of yesterday evening, we must reiterate the censures which we bestowed upon the conduct of the Managers in permitting the comforts of the majority, and certainly the *respectable* portion of their nightly supporters, to be assailed by the noise and fighting in the *overful* upper gallery. To propose the rejection of the money of those individuals who applied for their admission after the several divisions of the Theatre had been filled, we fear would make the Treasurer of this and of similar establishments, bestow a smile of ineffable contempt upon the ignorant politician who should offer such a plan,—nor (save as a *last* resource) should *we* desire it, but *more* consideration is surely due from the Managers to the frequenters of their houses. Has any consideration been evinced?—The disturbance which nightly takes place, precludes all possibility of deriving the least enjoyment from the entertainments, the *seeing* which becomes a *labour*, not a *pleasure*. The point resolves itself to this:—it is the *duty* of the Managers to make every attempt in their power to prevent the ease and comforts of their chief upholders, from being encroached upon by a turbulent, *sixpenny* rabble. If they (the Managers) do not choose to reject any money offered, why not open the slips which are always vacant? Or does the infringement of a *custom* excite greater reluctance than the conviction that three fourths of their nightly attenders leave the theatres with a head-ache and disgust? Though in our duty to our readers we are uninfluenced by *any* consideration, save justice, yet enjoying the freedom of Covent Garden House, we should not feel ourselves warranted in giving vent, while in the Theatre, to the censure which this pitiful policy would create; but we certainly think that the Managers are not acting wisely nor respectfully. We should (save under the above named circumstances) have derived considerable gratification from the opera of *Rob Roy* last night; though we do not agree with the conception of the character of the Highland chieftain which Mr. Macready appears to have imbibed: nor, after depicting the outlines of that gentleman's performance, will many arguments be required to prove how little it assimilates with the records of the hero on history's or fiction's page. The *Rob Roy* of Mr. Macready's imagination is—a

solemn, sententious, GENTLEMAN, possessed of more tragical refinement, than of the bold pride of *nature:* and more cultivation by the *rules*, than by the *effects* of society—there are not the *shades*, the *tints* of character which present to the spectator the variety of aspects, that fickle nature oft assumes; and Rob, though a man of keen feelings, was more the bold, careless, independent foundling of Society, than the cold tragedian of its higher walks. Miss Tree, did not execute the music of Diana Vernon, with that effect which we had anticipated—she substituted "*O say not Woman's heart*" for "*Had it been my humble lot,*" and, though rather inclined to be unharmonious, displayed in it delightful taste. In the song of "*A Highland lad*" she was encored, but had not strength of voice to give it due effect. The duet to the air of "*Ye Banks*" she sang with *much* sweetness. Mr. Duruset, did infinite justice to the character of Frank. Mr. Liston, adhered closer to the *text* than he usually does. The Pit and Galleries were quite full; the Boxes indifferently attended. Miss Tree, left out her verse in the finale to the Play.

DRURY LANE.

Last night, *The Dramatist*, with *The Coronation*, and *Giovanni in London*, were performed to a very thin house, except as to the Galleries, which were crammed full of holiday-folks. At first price there was not above thirty-five pounds in the Pit, and the Boxes were hardly filled in the first row. The Comedy was acted with much spirit, but frequently in a manner best calculated to amuse the unsophisticated sons and daughters of humble industry nearest the ceiling, who were mightily amused with *Vapid, Old Scratch*, and *Ennui*. *The Coronation*, still forms an attraction, which proves the immense number of *strangers* that are continually pouring into this metropolis, although, certainly, there are many residents who at this season visit the Theatres, that seldom can afford to do so at other periods. MADAME VESTRIS, as *Giovanni* in London, met with better applause than for the last week attended her *Donship* in Ireland.

We hope, however, we are not to be much longer annoyed with *this* Extravaganza, which would do very well once or twice in a year, but really has been seen so often, that any charm it at first possessed is now lost to the numerous body of frequenters of the Theatre.

MORTON's Comedy of *Secrets Worth Knowing*, is to be acted tonight: we noticed the last performance of this *witless* piece in our 40th number. The two best drawn characters are *April* and *Sally*. On the last occasion we derived much pleasure from *Mr. Munden's* representation of the former character, and *Mrs. Edwin's* lively and humorous acting in the latter. *Comedy* is, in general, excellently performed here.

☞ The first and second volumes are bound, and ready for delivery.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed

The Two Gentlemen of Verona.

The Principal Characters by Mr. Abbott, Mr. Jones, Mr. Farren, Mr. Liston, Mr. Blanchard, Miss M. Tree, Miss Hallande, &c. &c.

THE CARNIVAL IN THE SQUARE OF MILAN,

To conclude with, a New, Grand, and Comic Pantomime,

Harlequin & Mother Bunch; Or, the Yellow Dwarf.

The Music, by Mr. WARE, the Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, &c. entirely New. The Scenery, by Messrs. Pugh, Grieve, and Assistants. The Machinery by Mr. Saul. The Tricks, Changes, and Transformations, by Mr. Bradwell.

The whole under the Direction of Mr. FARLEY.

Characters in the Pantomine, and Succession of the Scenery.

THE ENTRANCE to the PALACE OF THE KING of the GOLD MINES

King of the Gold Mines, (afterwards Harlequin) Mr. ELLAR.

Guinea Pig, (afterwards Harlequin's Lacquey) Mr. I. S. GRIMALDI.

Guinea Pig Yeomen, Messrs Squeak, Snort, Grunt, Whistle, &c

Officers of the Gold Mine Cabinet, Messrs. Silver-tongue, Brassly, &c.

THE SANDY DESERT,

In the midst of which grows the ORANGE TREE.

Mother Bunch (the Desert Fairy) Master LONGHURST.

Yellow Dwarf, (afterwards Clown) Mr. GRIMALDI.

The Princess All Fair, (afterwards Colombine) Miss E. DENNETT.

THE CHAMBER OF THE PRINCESS.

The Queen of Golcondo, (afterwards Pantaloon) Mr. BARNES.

Ladies of the Bedchamber, Mesdms. Vedy, Wells, Twamley, Shotter.

THE NUPTIAL HALL.

High Priest, Mr. LOUIS.

THE CASTLE OF POLISHED STEEL.

The Dwarfish Giant, (Keeper of the Castle) Mons. BROADBONES.

The Garden of the Castle. The Sea Port of Golconda.

Golcond Sailors, Messrs. Boomly, Harding, Ratlings, and Masterly

VIEW FROM MARGATE PIER. STEAM PACKET.

Billingsgate, London Bridge, and the Pool. A Street in London.

OUTSIDE OF WESTMINSTER HALL.

Counsellors Long Bill, Short Brief, Plausible, If Not, Why Not.

Sergeants. Non Suit, Double Fee, Either Side.

Client, (with Gained Cause and Lost Suit) Mr. RAGTAIL.

Inside of the Court of King's Bench. Blackheath, near London.

Cockney Sportsman, Mr. WOODCOCK.

JOHNNY GILPIN's HOUSE, CHEAPSIDE.

Johnny Gilpin, Mr. COLLETT. Mrs. Gilpin, Mrs. ALLWRY.

Her Sister, Mrs. DALE. Betty, Miss LOVELACK.

The Turnpike-House—Stamford-Hill—The Bell at Edmonton—The Rotunda of the Bank of England.

THE PALACE OF THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES.

XUM

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening will be performed Morton's Comedy of

Secrets worth Knowing;

Or, the Way to get Money.

Rostrum, Mr. ELLISTON,
April, Mr. MUNDEN,
Egerton, (first time) Mr. BARNARD.
Nicholas, Mr. KNIGHT, Plethora, Mr. HARLEY
Greville, Mr. THOMPSON, Valet, Mr. VINING,
Undermine, Mr. GATTIE, Butler, Mr. Turnour.
Cook, Mr. Webster, Coachman, Mr. Howell.
Footman, Mr. Isaacs.

Mrs. Greville, Mrs. W. WEST, Sally Mrs EDWIN,
Rose Sydney, Madame VESTRIS.

After which

The Coronation.

To conclude with the Farce of

Frighten'd to Death.

Sir Joshua Greybeard, Mr. GATTIE.
Phantom, Mr. HARLEY. Mumps, Mr. KNIGHT.
Carleton, Mr. BARNARD. Colonel Bluff, Mr. VINING.
Emily, Mrs. ORGER.
Corinna, Miss CUBITT. Patty, Mrs. BLAND.

Miss Edmiston, the Young Lady who has been honored with such distinguished applause, is engaged, and will shortly make her re-appearance with Mr. Kean in a New Tragedy.

To-morrow The Busy Body, with the Coronation, and Fortune's Frolic.

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